

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 DOTE-00

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R 101251Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4997

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDOC WASHDC

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 29563

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, ELTN, EWWT, ETRN, UK, FR, BECP

SUBJECT: CHANNEL TUNNEL

REF: PARIS 29531

FOLLOWING IN INFORMAL TRANSLATION IS GOF COMMUNIQUE ON
CHANNEL TUNNEL PROJECT ISSUED LATE DEC. 9 AS CARRIED
BY AFP FOLLOWING EARLIER PRESS STORIES ON WHICH
PARA 1 REFTEL WAS BASED:

QUOTE FOLLOWING VARIOUS PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING THE
CHANNEL TUNNEL THE STATE SECRETARIAT OF TRANSPORT
PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:

1. THE CHANNEL TUNNEL PROJECT HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF
VARIOUS AGREEMENTS AMONG FOUR PARTNERS: THE BRITISH
GOVERNMENT, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, AND ALSO THE TWO
CORPORATIONS, FRENCH AND BRITISH, FOR THE CHANNEL
TUNNEL PROJECT. ANY MODIFICATION OF THESE AGREEMENTS
REQUIRES THE APPROVAL OF THE FOUR PARTNERS.

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2. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'
IN REPLY TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, PROPOSED NOT ONLY
TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT BUT ALSO TO THE TWO
CORPORATIONS THAT A PROTOCOL BE SIGNED SHORTLY
MODIFYING SLIGHTLY CERTAIN OF THE DATES IN THE AGREED
TIMETABLE.

3. IN THESE CONDITIONS ONE CANNOT SPEAK OF DELAYING
WORK ON THE TUNNEL AND EVEN LESS OF ABANDONING IT SO
LONG AS THE NECESSARY NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE PARTNERS
CONCERNED HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED.

FOR ITS PART, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, WHICH REMAINS
ATTACHED TO THE CARRYING THROUGH OF THE PROJECT, IS
ACTIVELY PURSUING PROCEDURAL PREPARATIONS FOR
RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY. THE SENATE HAS ALREADY
APPROVED THE BILL AUTHORIZING THIS RATIFICATION, AND
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE UP THE BILL
IN A MATTER OF DAYS. UNQUOTE
RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, PRESS COMMENTS, TUNNELS, ENGLISH CHANNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS29563
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740358-0092
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741247/aaaabnyw.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PARIS 29531
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 SEP 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANNEL TUNNEL
TAGS: EALR, ELTN, EWWT, ETRN, UK, FR, BECP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005